

# What 5G Core Security Means for Regional Operators –and Cybercriminals

Smaller mobile operators are excited about the transition to 5G. So are cybercriminals. **Here's why.**

Regional mobile operators are committed to 5G—**87% implementation rate within 3 years.**



All operators, both large and small, see a **steady progression towards 5G**

## The New Multi-generational Reality Increases Vulnerability

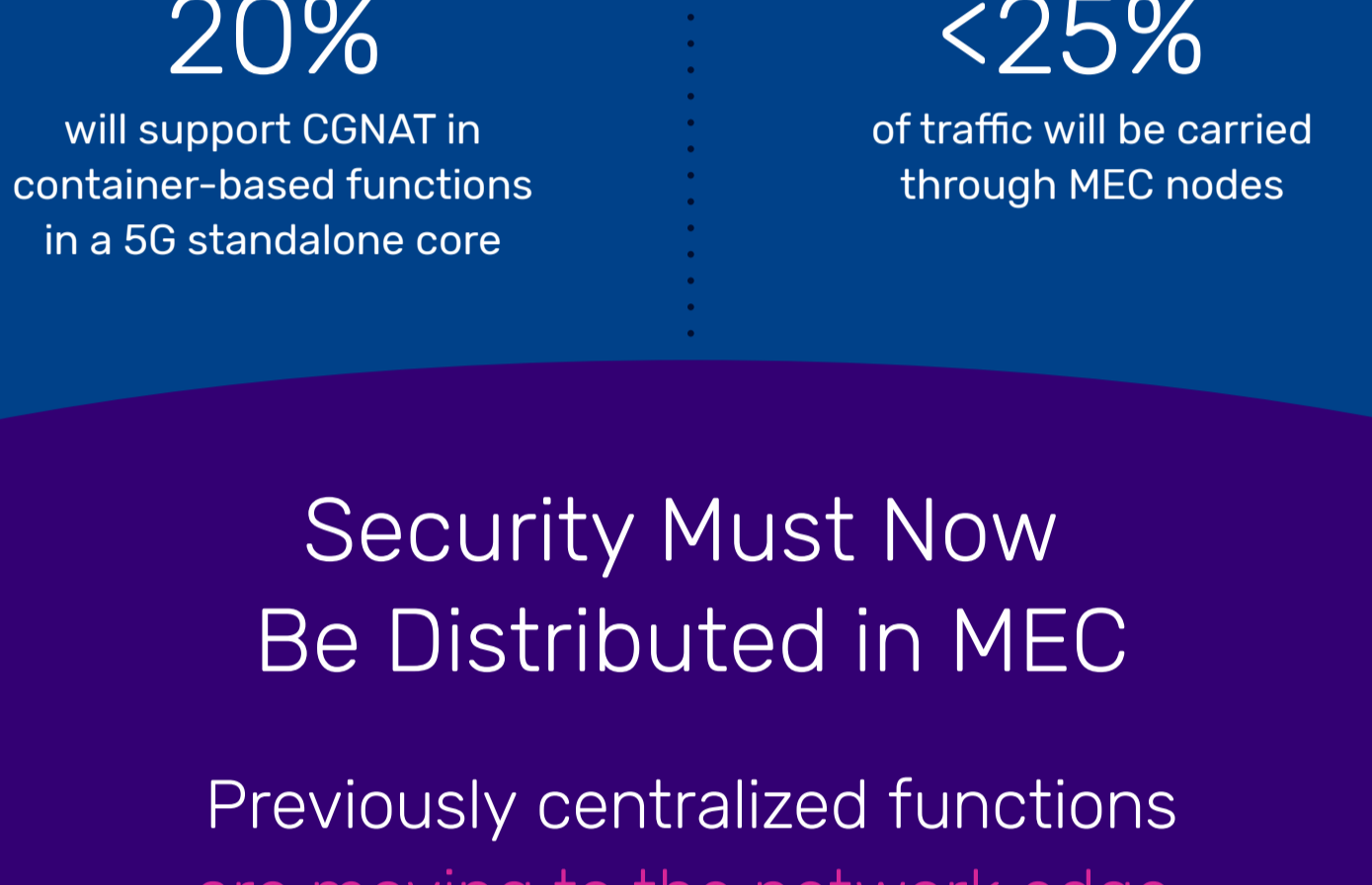
5G isn't going to replace 3G/4G all at once. **By 2025:**



3G/4G vulnerabilities + 5G vulnerabilities = more numerous and dispersed attack points

**Carrier-grade networking (CGN)** will play a key role in the transition.

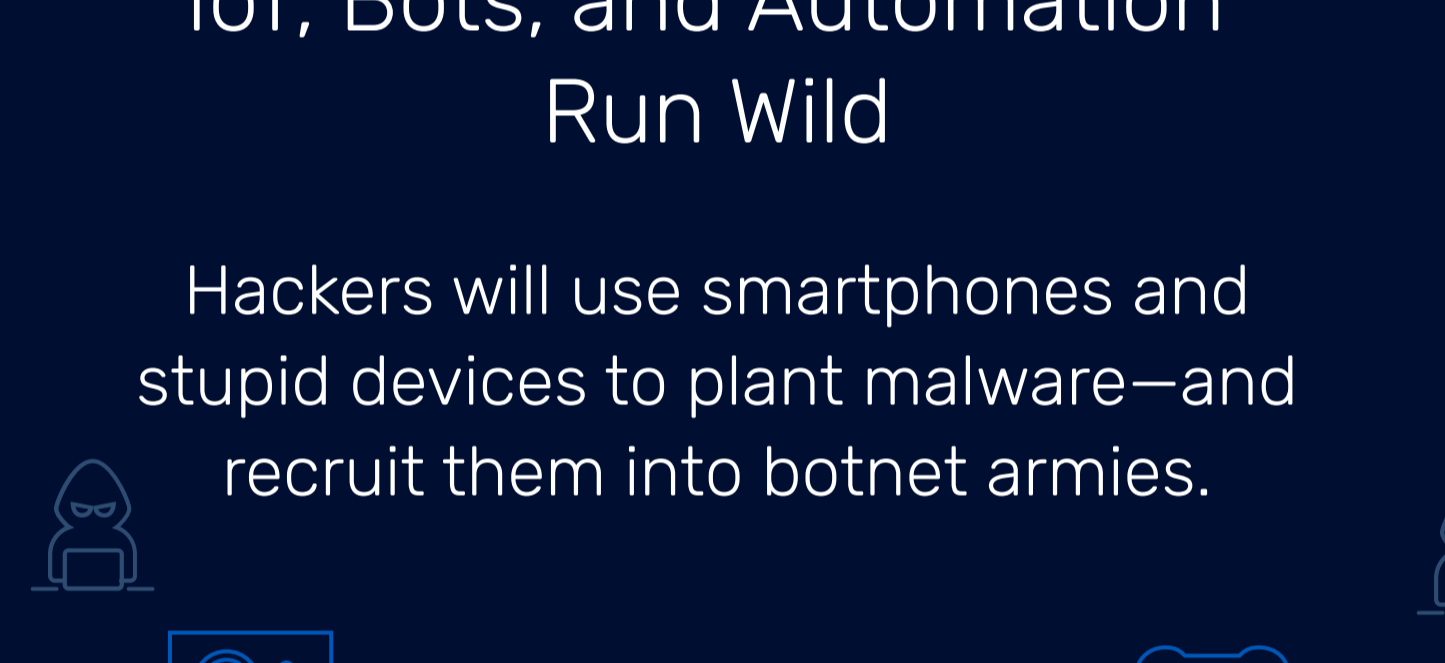
**Mobile edge compute (MEC)** will move slowly as well. In 2025:



## Security Must Now Be Distributed in MEC

Previously centralized functions are moving to the network edge:

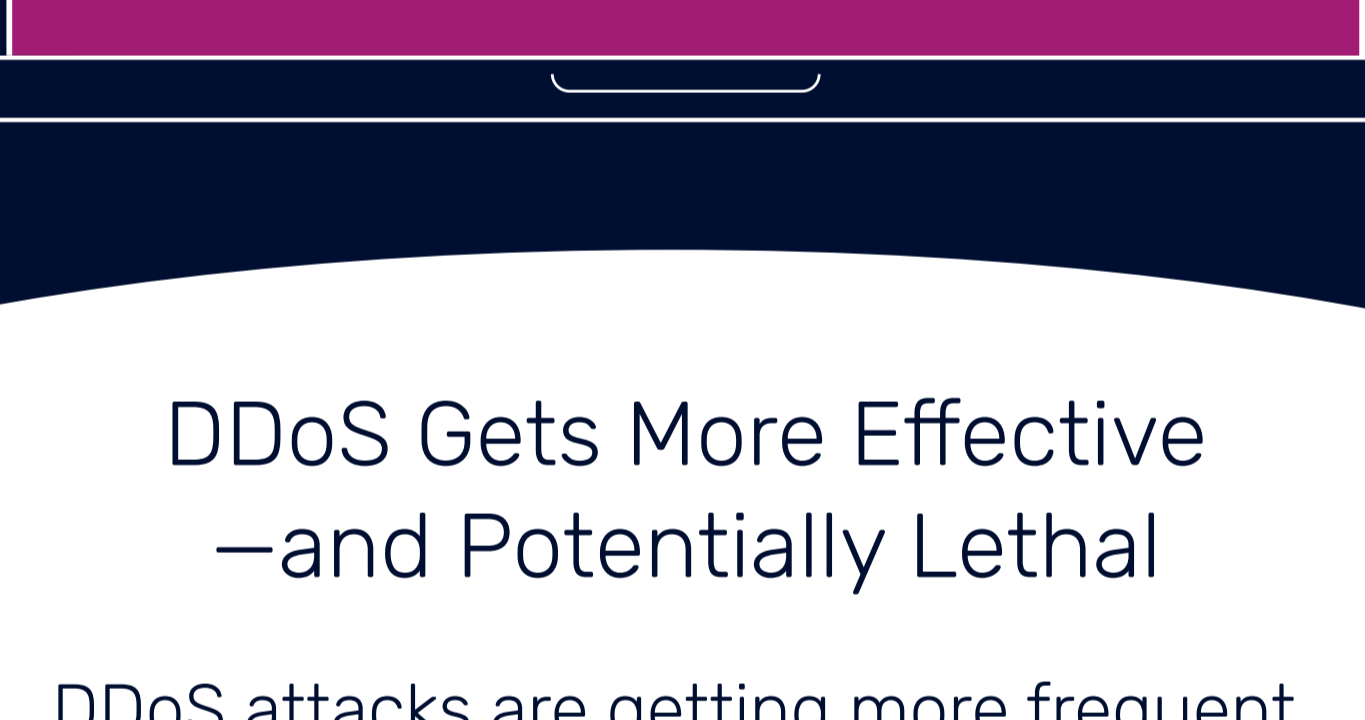
- Firewalls
- DDoS Protection
- CGN
- Traffic Steering
- Load Balancing



## IoT, Bots, and Automation Run Wild

Hackers will use smartphones and stupid devices to plant malware—and recruit them into botnet armies.

**By 2026:**



## DDoS Gets More Effective –and Potentially Lethal

DDoS attacks are getting more frequent, harder to detect, and all too affordable.



Even small attacks can be devastating

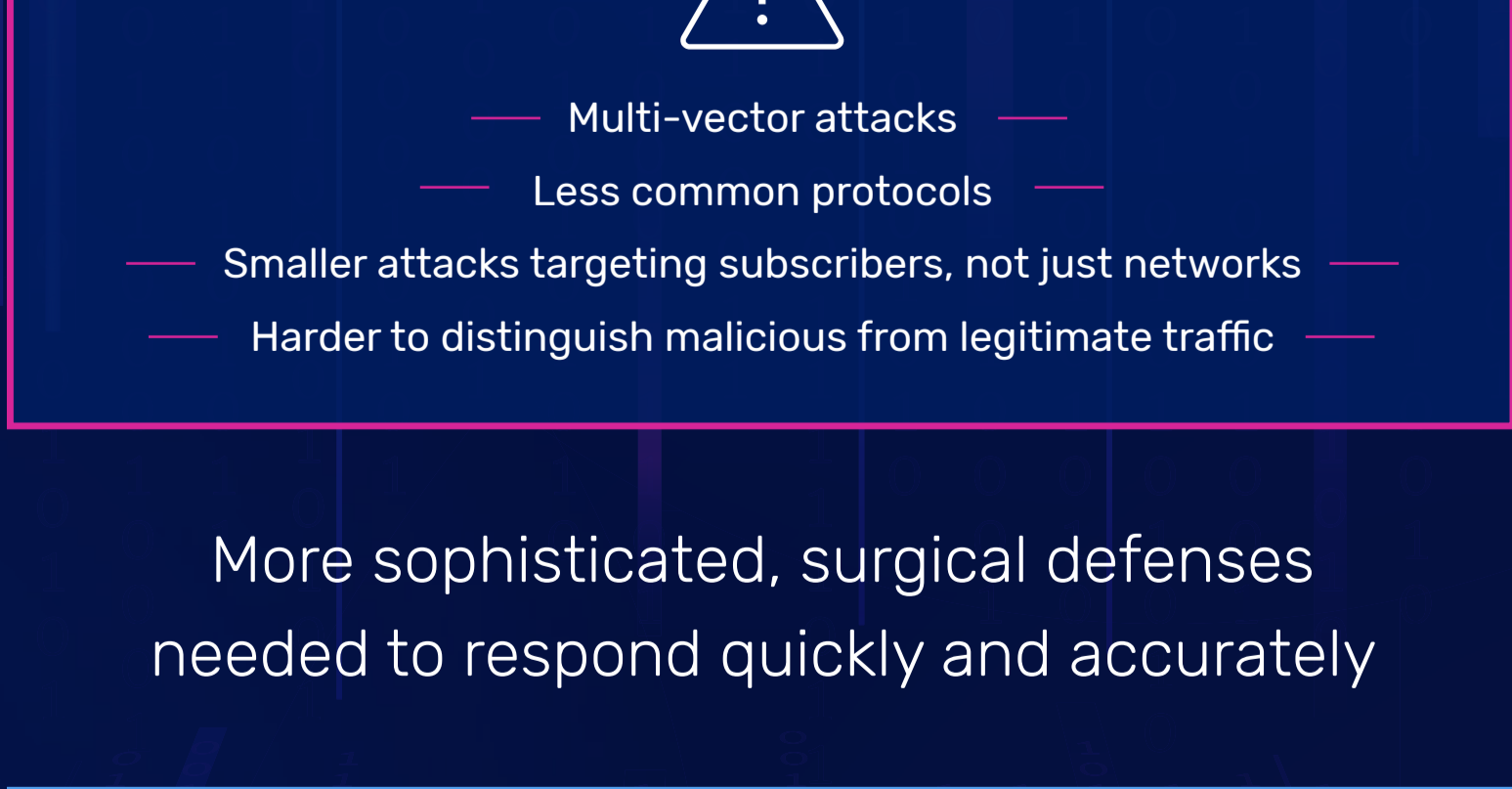


Meanwhile large attacks are getting larger and lasting longer



## The 80-20 Problem

Not all DDoS attacks pose the same dangers or challenges



Problem lies in the middle



<sup>1</sup> Ericsson Mobility Report – June 2021  
<sup>2</sup> A10 Networks  
<sup>3</sup> SecureList  
<sup>4</sup> Neustar  
<sup>5</sup> TrendMicro Research  
<sup>6</sup> Dark Reading

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